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R #16224

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UNCLASSIFIED
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

ACDA/GC

Van Jones
File

November 6, 1969

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of October 17, 1969, with respect to the status of the Nonproliferation Treaty.

Your first question related to the Soviet delay in completing its ratification process. While I cannot give you any precise answer as to the degree to which this reflects a desire on their part to wait until the Federal Republic of Germany signs the treaty, it is fair to assume that German signature would make prompt Soviet ratification more likely.

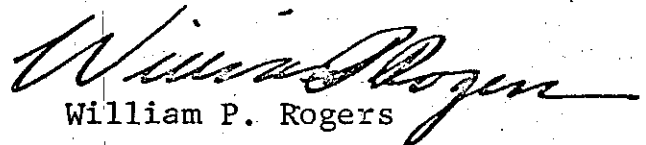
As for the outlook for action by the new West German Government, I am sure you are aware of the following excerpt from the Government Declaration which Chancellor Brandt made on October 28, 1969:

"It will sign the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as soon as the clarifications requested by the last Federal Government have been obtained."

The next day a delegation headed by the German Disarmament Commissioner, Ambassador Roth, arrived in Washington for discussion of those points on which clarification was desired. These discussions, which we believe will prove helpful, were completed on October 31.

DECLASSIFIED BY/RELEASE AUTHORITY:
RICHARD ZORN, SENIOR REVIEWER
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELEASE DECISION: RELEASE IN FULL
DATE: JANUARY 15, 2020

Sincerely yours,


William P. Rogers

The Honorable
J. W. Fulbright,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign
Relations,
United States Senate.

Redrafted in S:HOkun:jlh

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Clearances:

ACDA/IR - Mr. Gleysteen
ACDA/GC - Mr. Hancock
EUR/SOV - Mr. Dubs
EUR/GER - Mr. Barkley
EUR/RPM - Mr. Goodby
PM - Mr. Martin

H - Ambassador Torbert

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

ACTION
is assigned to

ACDA

October 17, 1969

The Honorable William P. Rogers
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your letter of October 7, in reply to my letter of September 25, regarding the status of the Nonproliferation Treaty.

You say, in your letter, that the Soviets "have not indicated when we can expect them to be ready to deposit their instrument of ratification." I would hope that, in due course, you will let me know in more detail to what degree you believe that Soviet unwillingness to complete the ratification process is due to a desire on their part to wait until the West German Government signs the Treaty. In this connection, I hope that you will be able also to go more thoroughly into the question of the outlook for action by the new West German Government.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Fulbright
J. W. Fulbright
Chairman

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RICHARD ZORN, SENIOR REVIEWER
U.S DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELEASE DECISION: RELEASE IN FULL
DATE: JANUARY 15, 2020

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: S/S *RL* *HT*

FROM: H - H. G. Torbert, Jr.

DECLASSIFIED BY/RELEASE AUTHORITY:
RICHARD ZORN, SENIOR REVIEWER
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RELEASE DECISION: RELEASE IN FULL
DATE: JANUARY 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Letter for Secretary's Signature:
Reply to Chairman Fulbright's Letter concerning
Status of NPT. ACTION MEMORANDUM

DISCUSSION:

In a letter dated October 17, 1969 (Tab B), Chairman Fulbright asked to what degree you believe that Soviet unwillingness to complete ratification of the NPT was due to a desire to wait until signature by the FRG, and what the outlook was for an FRG signature.

The proposed reply states that while you cannot give a precise answer to the first question, it is fair to assume that German signature would make prompt Soviet ratification more likely. It also refers to Chancellor Brandt's October 28 statement that the FRG will sign the NPT as soon as the clarifications requested by the former FRG Government have been obtained, and states the belief that the discussions held with the Germans this week will prove helpful.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached letter to Chairman Fulbright (Tab A).

Concurrences:

ACDA/IR - Mr. Gleysteen EUR/RPM - Mr. Goodby PM - Mr. Shaw

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Attachments:

Tab A - Letter to Chairman Fulbright

Tab B - Letter from Chairman Fulbright

Concurrences - Letter:

ACDA/IR - Mr. Gleysteen

PM - Mr. Shaw

EUR/RPM - Mr. Goodby (Draft)

H - Ambassador Torbert

EUR/SOV - Mr. Dubs (Draft)

EUR/GER - Mr. Barkley (Draft)